

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (original) A frame section adapted to form part of a shadow mask frame, within a cathode ray tube, having a hollow, generally rectangular shape and on which a shadow mask is mountable, said frame section (1) including two flange portions (2, 5) of a thin-walled material arranged at an angle to each other, a first flange portion serving as a mask mounting flange (2) the width of which extends generally in parallel with the direction of the cathode rays and on which the shadow mask is mountable, and a second flange portion serving as a reinforcing flange (5) whose width extends generally perpendicularly to the direction of the cathode rays, characterized in that the reinforcing flange portion (5) comprises an elongated through-slit (6) extending in the longitudinal direction of the frame section (1) to reduce the microphony influence on the shadow mask.

2. (original) A frame section according to claim 1, characterized in that the slit (6) has a length of at least 50% of the total length of the frame section (1).

3. (original) A frame section according to claim 1, characterized in that the slit (6) has a length of at least 60% of the total length of the frame section (1).

4. (original) A frame section according to claim 1, characterized in that the slit (6) has a length of at least 70% of the total length of the frame section (1).

5. (currently amended) A frame section according to ~~any one of~~ ~~the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the slit (6) is formed as a through-cut in the reinforcing flange (5), and that at least one of the edge portions surrounding the cut is bent on either side so as to misalign the edge portions to form the slit.

6. (currently amended) A frame section according to ~~any one of~~ ~~the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the reinforcing flange (5) also comprises a rib which extends (7) in the longitudinal direction of the frame section (1) and is positioned in the area between the slit (6) and an inner edge.

7. (currently amended) A frame section according to ~~any one of~~ ~~the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that more than one

slit (6) are arranged in parallel with each other in the reinforcing flange (5).

8. (currently amended) A frame section according to ~~any one of~~ ~~the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the slit (6) is discontinuous along its length and interrupted by a bridging portion (11).

9. (currently amended) A cathode ray tube comprising a color selection electrode with a frame including a frame section (1) according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1.